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insanity is not a clear one, and that the attempt to draw it sharply is futile.

In like manner we will not attempt to fix responsibility for these states and their outcoming acts. It is too deep a question for the present state of science, and so we leave it. Practically, men hold one another responsible, and properly so, but charity and truth require that we do not attempt to draw a line which human vision cannot determine. There is another view to be taken of the matter, which is accordant with philosophy and effective in practice. The mind of the so-called insane are as open to the influence of motives as are those of the sane. If those motives are known, supply them in order to produce results. Pains and penalties affect the insane, though perhaps in different kind and degree, from those that control the sane. For the benefit of other disordered minds, if not for that of the guilty person, let them be inflicted. This will not be in a spirit of revenge, but in benevolent consideration for the greatest good of the greatest number.

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## RECENT LITERATURE.

DE QUATREFAGES' *THE HUMAN SPECIES*.<sup>1</sup>—We looked forward with some degree of interest to the reception of this book, desirous to know how the author, who is well known to be conservative and an opponent of Darwinism as such, would look upon the question of man's origin from a savage state, and his antiquity, and other controverted anthropological topics. A perusal of the book, the interest of which is sustained from beginning to end, convinces us that the author by his fairness, sagacity and general culture, and scientific spirit, is uncommonly well qualified to express his opinion on mooted questions. The subject is treated in a comprehensive way and with the methods of the zoölogist, the author being distinguished for his anatomical work upon the lower animals. While disposed to ascribe to animals innate sense, consciousness and reason, and allowing that from an anatomical point of view "there is less difference between man and the superior order of apes, than between the latter and the inferior orders," and allowing that it is not "in the phenomena connected with the intelligence that we shall find the basis of a fundamental distinction between man and animals," he proceeds to place man in a separate kingdom from the animal kingdom, because of his moral and religious faculties. From this point of view he studies man, and discusses his relations as a species divided into numerous races, his origin, antiquity and original birth-place, his migrations from his specific center, and the steps

<sup>1</sup> *The Human Species*. By A. De Quatrefages, Professor of Anthropology in the Museum of Natural History, Paris. The International Scientific Series, New York, D. Appleton & Co., 1881. 12mo, pp. 498. \$2.00.

in his acclimatization as he moved out in successive waves of migration from his birth-place. Our author then studies primitive man, the fossil human races, and finally discusses the physical and psychological characters of the present human races. From this sketch it will be seen in what a comprehensive way De Quatrefages has viewed the subject.

After endeavoring to prove the unity of the human species, a topic upon which there is now but little disagreement, he discusses Darwinism, and, while he accepts the doctrine of natural selection, claims that we have not yet discovered any *vera causa* of transmutation of species, though expressing his willingness to accept a theory of evolution when a good working one is discovered. He meanwhile strongly insists upon the fact that the early races of man have been modified during their migrations, and that the prehistoric races have been acted upon by climatic changes; thus far De Quatrefages is an evolutionist. His criticisms of Darwin's missing links, of Huxley's pithecoïd man, of Wallace's views, are candid and some of his opposing views are certainly weighty.

As to the antiquity of man, De Quatrefages agrees with those who trace him back to miocene times, or to use his own, emphatic words, "Man was most certainly in existence during the quaternary epoch and during the transition age, to which the gravels of Saint Prest and the deposits of the Victoria cave belong. He has, in all probability, seen miocene times, and consequently the entire pliocene epoch" and, he adds, man may "have been contemporaneous with the earliest mammalia, and go back as far as the secondary period."

While, simply for want of evidence, discarding the views of Darwin and Haeckel, as to the origin of man from some lower mammal, and indulging in no speculations of this sort, he still applies to man Darwin's theory of natural selection and the principle of the struggle for existence among the different races.

After tracing briefly the history of the Aryan race, its origin on the southern slopes of the central Himalayas, in a region where the summer lasted only two months, and indicating the route this hardy race followed as it descended into Bokhara, and overrun Persia and Cabul before reaching the basin of the Indus, and finally reached the Ganges, and showing how this prepotent race overran the world until it has gradually become acclimatized from the poles to the tropics, he graphically compares the beginning of the human race to that of the far later Aryan race, in the following words:—

"The human species must have made a beginning like the Aryans. Upon leaving their center of creation, it was by slow stages that the primitive colonists, ancestors of all existing races, marched forth to the conquest of the uninhabited world. They thus accustomed themselves to the different conditions of existence

imposed upon them by the north, the south, the east, or the west, cold or heat, plain or mountain. Diverging in every direction, and meeting with different conditions of life, they gradually established a harmony between themselves and each one of them. Thus acclimatization, advancing at the same rate as geographical conquest, was less fatal. The struggle, however, though mitigated indeed by the slowness of the advance, still existed, and many pioneers must have fallen upon the route. But the survivors had only nature to face, and, therefore, succeeded, and peopled the world."

The studies of our author and the facts he presents are extremely interesting, as well as original and most valuable to the zoölogist. How he looks upon primitive man may be seen by another extract, which reads as if written by a confirmed evolutionist.

"The primitive type of the human species must necessarily have been effaced, and have disappeared. The enforced migrations, and the actions of climate, must of themselves have produced this result. Man has passed through two geological epochs; perhaps his center of appearance is no longer in existence; at any rate, the conditions are very different to those prevailing when humanity began its existence. When everything was changing round him, man could not avoid being changed also. Crossing also, has certainly played its part in this transformation."

He adopts De Salles idea that the earliest men had red hair, and that the present cases of races and individuals with red hair, and a yellow skin, as in the case of mulattoes, are examples of atavism. The primitive man probably had a prognathous jaw, and his language was a more or less pronounced monosyllabic one, though these are only conjectures. He believes farther, that while man did not enter the world with the innate knowledge and instincts of animals alone, still less did he appear in a fully civilized state "mature in body and mind;" he had only the aptitudes which were destined to undergo the marvellous development of later times.

The chapters on the action of conditions of life and heredity, will satisfy most of our readers as they are, whether the author will admit or not, simply modern Lamarckianism. De Quatrefages insists that "the first causes of variation are, *conditions of life and heredity*. In phenomena of this kind, conditions of life act as the supreme ruler. If they vary, they become modifying agents, if they remain constant, agents of stabilization. In both cases their result is to harmonize organisms with the conditions of their existence. Heredity, which is essentially a preserving agent, becomes an agent of variation when it transmits and accumulates the modifying actions of the conditions of life."

De Quatrefages in opposition to Lubbock and others claims,

with citations of numerous authorities, that the lowest of existing savages, such as the Australians, have a moral sense and ideas of a God, and that so far as we know the earliest prehistoric races had the religious sense and an idea of a hereafter, as shown by the burial of their dead.

The book, though published in the present year, must have been prepared several years since, as it is strangely deficient in references to recent discoveries in American anthropology, such as Wyman's works, the discoveries of Professor J. D. Whitney in California and several other prominent archæologists, but still the work is a most useful and valuable one, in many respects written from an advanced standpoint, and the author distinguishes, as is not always done by modern anthropologists, between reasonable inductions and simple conjectures.

THE ZOOLOGICAL RECORD FOR 1879.<sup>1</sup>—This volume, though not paged consecutively, contains about as many pages as any of its predecessors, and is rather more bulky than the Record for the three preceding years. According to a notice in *Nature*, about 1000 new species were described during 1879 and are recorded in this volume; this shows a remarkable activity among the systematic zoölogists. Numerous and important changes have occurred in the editorial staff. The volume continues to be edited by Mr. E. C. Rye, but the deaths of Messrs. Alston and O'Shaughnessy, and the unfortunate resignation of Dr. Lütken of Copenhagen, who has so long and so ably edited the *Echinoderms and Cœlenterates*, is a serious loss to the list of editors; their places, however, have been, so far as we see, well supplied by younger men, and the Record still remains an indispensable reference book for zoölogists. As we have repeatedly said, those American zoölogists or entomologists, who live out of reach of libraries, would do well to own the volumes as they annually appear. The Record for 1880 is promised to subscribers in the course of the present year. Meanwhile the work of the editors will be greatly facilitated and the list of zoölogical papers and of new species and genera more perfect if American authors would think to send copies of their articles to the editor, care of Mr. Van Voorst, 1 Paternoster Row, London.

OUR SPORTING JOURNALS.<sup>2</sup>—No country can boast of better conducted sporting journals than the United States. The extent of our country furnishes many varieties of sport, and all are well represented by agreeable correspondents from every section of the continent. An important function of these periodicals, and one which they are effectively performing, is the preservation of the

<sup>1</sup> *The Zoological Record for 1879*; being volume sixteenth of the Record of Zoological Literature. Edited by EDWARD CALDWELL RYE, London, 1881. 8vo.

<sup>2</sup> *Afield and Afloat*, Philadelphia, 16 pp. *The American Field*, New York and Chicago, 28 pp. *The Forest and Stream* and *Rod and Gun*, New York, pp. 22. *The Chicago Field*, Chicago, 24 pp.